

Intervention: Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)

Finding: Sufficient evidence for ineffectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

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|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) curriculum is focused on 10- and 11-year-old students in grades five and six. Taught by police officers, DARE aims to inform students about alcohol and other drugs and to teach social and decision-making skills to help participants resist their use.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

Systematic reviews indicate that DARE is an ineffective intervention. Foxcroft, et al., write that the program is an ineffective intervention and do not recommend it. Similarly, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) found that DARE essentially has no impact on alcohol use. A systematic review by Wiehe, et al. indicates that there is insufficient evidence to either recommend or not recommend the program.

Additional information:

DARE - www.dare.com

References:

Foxcroft DR, Ireland D, Lister-Sharp DJ, Lowe G, Breen R. Longer-term primary prevention for alcohol misuse in young people: a systematic review. *Addiction* 2003 Apr; 98(4):397-411.

Wiehe SE, Garrison MM, Christakis DA, Ebel BE, Rivara FP. A systematic review of school-based smoking prevention trials with long-term follow-up. *J. Adolesc. Health* 2005 Mar; 36(3):162-169.

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAA). Alcohol Alert: Preventing alcohol abuse and related problems. October 1996; 34:1. Available at: www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/aa34.htm